

Frequently asked questions:

Housing Privatization

Q:

Why is the Air Force privatizing housing?

A:

Military families deserve "safe, quality, affordable, well-maintained housing."

Recognizing this, DOD has set a goal of upgrading all inadequate housing by 2010. Unfortunately, traditional housing military construction programs for bringing housing up to current standards are not funded sufficiently to meet the goal. In 1996, the Defense Authorization Act authorized the use of private capital to revitalize housing and the Military Housing Privatization Initiative was born. Bottom line is privatization is the best, if not only, way to develop quality housing within a reasonable timeframe.

Q:

Will I have to pay utilities?

A:

Not right away. Until new construction and renovation activities are

complete, occupants will give their entire BAH to the developer to pay for rent and utilities. After completion of construction activities, occupants will be required to pay gas and electricity bills on a monthly basis. A "utility allowance" will be calculated by the developer based on 110 percent of the estimated utility cost for each unit type. The utility allowance will be recalculated annually and be based on historic usage for each unit type. This allowance will be subtracted from your BAH to establish your monthly rent. You will be billed directly by

the respective utility provider for the utility amounts actually consumed.

On the side:

Holloman will convey to a private developer, exact date still being finalized, a total of 1,413 military family housing units, maintenance and other support facilities, and will lease the underlying land for 50 years. The developer will demolish approximately 970 units, construct 837 new units, and renovate 342 units. Construction and renovation activities must be completed within ten years of the transaction closing. In addition, the recently constructed 101 housing units will be conveyed as is.

For additional information about Holloman housing privatization, contact Mr. Joe Lippis, 49th Civil Engineer Squadron at 572-0236, or by email at joseph.lippis.ctr@holloman.af.mil.

Readiness, life, response

You may not know it, but somebody needs you. All types of blood donors are needed on a regular basis. While many believe the military has a sufficient supply of blood on hand at all times, this isn't always true. When supplies run low, the military spends a lot of money to purchase blood and blood products.

When blood is donated it can be split into three main components: red blood cells, platelets and plasma. These components play different roles in saving lives. Red blood cells carry oxygen, platelets help control bleeding and plasma carries blood cells, nutrients and critical proteins that enable platelets to clot. Some examples of recipients who may need all of three components are premature infants, troops wounded in combat, burn victims and transplant patients.

Did you know:

While Type O-Negative blood is considered the universal donor type, Type AB is the universal donor for plasma. Red Blood Cells have a shelf life of 42 days; platelets have five days; and plasma has the longest shelf life, one year.

When you come to donate, please make sure you. . .

- Are in general good health
- Have photo identification
- Are at least 17 years old
- Weigh at least 110 pounds
- Know the names and dosages of all medications being taken
- Have eaten that day
- Have not donated blood in the past 56 days

The next Holloman Blood Drive is Tuesday at the Community Activity Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For questions, contact the Base Blood Drive Coordinator Capt. Joel Stark at 572-5540.

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